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MALVERN URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORTS

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

AND THE

CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

FOR THE YEAR

1966

M A L V E R N U R B A N D I S T R I C T

A N N U A L R E P O R T S

by

H. F. GREEN, M.A., M.B., D.P.H.

Medical Officer of Health

and

HUGH L. WHITWHAM, M.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I.

Chief Public Health Inspector

FOR THE YEAR 1966

COMMITTEES CONCERNED WITH PUBLIC HEALTH

HIGHWAYS AND HEALTH COMMITTEE

MR. T. COOK

MR. H. J. KETTLE

MR. W. J. MARSH

MR. E. P. O'NEILL

MR. A. M. SIMPSON

MR. R. C. STORER

MRS. D. A. TAYLOR

MR. J. V. H. TOMPKINS (CHAIRMAN)

MR. J. W. G. WHATMORE

MR. H. W. T. SQUIBB, J.P. (Ex. Officio)

MR. R. W. GREEN (Ex. Officio)

HOUSING COMMITTEE

MRS. E. M. BERRY

MR. T. COOK

MR. R. W. GREEN (CHAIRMAN)

MR. M. G. HARVEY

MRS. E. L. LLOYD MORRIS

MR. E. P. O'NEILL

MR. A. M. SIMPSON

MR. H. W. T. SQUIBB, J.P.

MRS. D. A. TAYLOR

STAFF OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT

Medical Officer of Health

H. F. GREEN, M.A., M.B., D.P.H.

Chief Public Health Inspector

HUGH L. WHITWHAM, M.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I.

Deputy Chief Public Health Inspector

JAMES B. FRANKS, C.R.S.H., R.S.H.,
Meat and Foods

Assistant Public Health Inspector

GRAHAM J. AINSCOUGH, M.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I.

Chief Clerk

EDGAR C. BARBER

Shorthand Typist/Clerk

ROSEMARY A. DANIEL (Resigned 31.10.66)

" " "

CAROLINE F. TUSTIN (Commenced 24.10.66)

PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT, THE COUNCIL HOUSE, MALVERN.

Telephone: Malvern 61531

The Council House,

Malvern.

November, 1967.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present the Annual Report for the year 1966. Before discussing the effects of the rise in population of old people in Malvern, I would like to draw your attention to the introduction to the Health Inspector's part of this report. Mr. Whitwham comments on the vast number of enquiries that are dealt with by this office and I think that it is most important that the amount of this type of work that has to be carried out should be known both to the Council and to the Public at large.

The number of old people living in this country has increased consistently since the turn of the century and with the advent of anti-biotics, pneumonia has lost much of its power to kill off the older members of society, so that the increase in population of persons over sixty-five years of age has been much more rapid since 1951 than it was in previous decades. That this is the case can be seen from the returns of the causes of death in 1966 in the district. Sixty-two persons between the ages of sixty-five and seventy-five died during the year, whereas over the same period one hundred and ninety-five persons over the age of seventy-five died.

I have attempted to estimate the rise in population since 1961 and the figures are given in the table set out below.

MALVERN - Number of Persons

| AGE | 1961 | 1966 | INCREASE |
|---------|------|------|----------|
| 65 - 69 | 1109 | 1204 | + 95 |
| 70 - 74 | 967 | 1050 | + 83 |
| 75 - 79 | 724 | 786 | + 62 |
| 80 - 84 | 482 | 523 | + 41 |
| 85 - 89 | 22 | 22 | 0 |

An increase in two hundred and eighty-one persons over the age of sixty-five in five years represents an increase in 8.2% on the 1961 figure. In 1966, the amount of accommodation available for old people, which is owned by the Council, is as follows:-

1966

| | |
|--------------------|---|
| St. Nicholas House | - 16 Flats |
| Council Bungalows | - 164 |
| One Bedroom Flats | - 60 are occupied by elderly people |

1965

137 - One Bedroom Bungalows
(Further 12 under construction)

15 - One Bedroom Bungalows with Warden Services

16 - Flatlets (St. Nicholas House) with Warden Services

28 - One Bedroom Flats
(Further 48 under construction)

It is difficult to maintain a suitable register of applicants for old persons accommodation for two reasons. In the first place old people tend not to want to move and therefore usually fail to make application for accommodation until their plight is really desperate, and in the second place as their life expectation is limited it is obviously impossible to make a selection based on the length of time for which the application has been on the Housing List. One further point arises, that there is an undisclosed number of persons living in relatively large houses by themselves and therefore, this accommodation is being wastefully used. The Geriatric Health Visiting Service is now well established and the lines of communication are sufficiently well defined for it to be possible to know when the ageing process really starts to take place in any individual. If persons are to stay independent as long as possible, it is essential that they should get into smaller more easily run accommodation earlier rather than later in their lives. In just the same way it is essential that they maintain their standards of cleanliness and that help should be provided to that end early rather than later in their lives. Bearing in mind all these points, it is most strongly felt that Council plans for old persons accommodation should be reviewed and that the proposed amount of accommodation should be increased.

You will notice that I have hesitated to forecast the future population. This is so full of inponderables as to be a somewhat idle task. All one can say is that over the past five years a very great increase of the population of people in Malvern has taken place. Finally although my name appears on the front of this document, at the head of the list, I would like to stress the work is felt by all of us to be carried out by a corporate unit - the Department in which relationships are happy. I cannot adequately express my appreciation of the co-operation shown by all members of the staff during the past year.

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STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS IN THE AREA

| | | |
|---|---------------------|-------------|
| Area of land and inland water | | 7,400 acres |
| Registrar General's estimate of resident population | | 28,210 |
| Number of dwelling houses | | 8,791 |
| Total number of assessments | | 10,376 |
| Rateable value at 31.3.67 | | £1,019,827 |
| Sum represented by a penny rate at 31.3.67 | | £3,963 |

EXTRACT FROM THE VITAL STATISTICS OF THE YEAR

| | |
|---|------|
| Live Birth Rate (per 1,000 estimated resident population) | 19.7 |
| Still-Birth Rate (per 1,000 live and still-births) | 10.4 |
| Still-Birth Rate (per 1,000 estimate resident population) | 0.18 |
| Death Rate (per 1,000 estimate resident population) | 10.5 |
| Infantile Mortality Rate (per 1,000 live births) | 21.0 |

COMPARABLE DATA FOR ENGLAND AND WALES, 1966

| | |
|--|------|
| Live Births (per 1,000 total population) | 17.7 |
| Still-Birth Rate (per 1,000 live and still-births) | 15.4 |
| Death Rate (per 1,000 home population) | 11.7 |
| Infantile Mortality (per 1,000 live births) | 19.0 |

DEATHS

| <u>Causes of Death - All Ages</u> | <u>Total</u> | <u>Male</u> | <u>Female</u> |
|---|--------------|-------------|---------------|
| Cancer (all forms) | 52 | 21 | 31 |
| Cancer (of lung and bronchus) | 8 | 7 | 1 |
| Leukaemia, Aleukaemia | 1 | 0 | 1 |
| Diabetes | 3 | 1 | 2 |
| Disease of Heart and Arteries | 187 | 81 | 106 |
| Respiratory Diseases (excluding tuberculosis and cancer) | 26 | 11 | 15 |
| Ulcer of Stomach and Duodenum | 2 | 1 | 1 |
| Gastritis, Enteritis and Diarrhoea | 2 | 1 | 1 |
| Hyperplasia of Prostate | 2 | 2 | 0 |
| Congenital Malformations | 3 | 0 | 3 |
| Syphilitic Disease | 1 | 0 | 1 |
| Measles | 2 | 1 | 1 |
| Other defined and ill-defined diseases | 36 | 14 | 22 |
| Motor Vehicle Accidents | 4 | 1 | 3 |
| All other Accidents | 11 | 4 | 7 |
| Suicide | 1 | 1 | 0 |

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES IN THE AREA

Water Supplies

There are two main sources of Malvern Water. First a deep borehole at Bromsberrow which has been sunk in new red sandstone. It provides an abundant and good water supply showing an average total hardness of 17. It is not contaminated in any way. The second is water collected from the hills around the British Camp, the reservoir lying in a hollow in these hills. This supply is more in the nature of a standby than a main supply, and the analysis is typical of hill water that is, containing few "Solids in Solution" and having a low total hardness.

Regular samples have been taken by your Surveyor and the reports have been uniformly satisfactory. An average report is given below.

MALVERN WATER

Physical Characters

9th December, 1966

| | |
|---------|------------|
| Colour | Colourless |
| Odour | None |
| Deposit | None |
| pH | 7.6 |

Chemical Examination (Results expressed in parts per million)

| | |
|---------------------------------------|---------------|
| Solids in Solution (Dried at 180° C) | 260 |
| " After Ignition | 150 |
| Chlorine present as Chlorine | 21 |
| Hardness Non-Carbonate | 42 |
| " Carbonate | 172 |
| " Total | 214 |
| Ammoniacal Nitrogen | 0.07 |
| Albuminoid Nitrogen | 0.01 |
| Nitrate Nitrogen | 6.2 |
| Nitrite Nitrogen | Nil |
| Permanganate Value (4 hours at 27° C) | 0.08 |
| Toxic Metals | None detected |
| Total Residual Chlorine | Nil |

The monthly bacteriological examination of water taken from taps at various points in the town mains supply was uniformly satisfactory showing the absence of faecal coli on each occasion.

Water Supply from Wells

Only a few houses are supplied with water obtained from shallow wells. Samples are submitted from time to time to the Laboratory for analysis. Two samples of well water were taken during the year 1966. Two samples proved to be biologically unsatisfactory.

Public Cleaning

This work is carried out under the direction of the Surveyor. The disposal of household refuse is undertaken at the Glastonbury Sewerage Works by means of tipping. Street sweeping in central area daily, elsewhere once weekly. Cesspool emptying by mechanical means as required.

Swimming Baths and Pools

- (a) Public Swimming pools and baths - Public pool owned by Local Authority
- (b) Privately owned swimming pools or baths open to the public - none
- (c) Action taken to ensure the satisfactory condition of water - Routine Sampling

GENERAL PROVISIONS OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA

Laboratory Services

Chemical analysis is carried out, as before, by arrangement with the County Laboratory at the County Buildings. Bacteriological examinations are carried out at the Public Health Laboratory, Worcester Royal Infirmary.

Clinics

There are none provided by this Authority.

The following clinics are provided by Worcestershire County Council.

Infant Welfare Centres

| | | | | |
|--|-------------|-----|---|----------|
| The Clinic, Victoria Park Road | Wednesdays | 2.0 | - | 4.0 p.m. |
| Sydenham Villa, Newtown Road | Tuesdays | 2.0 | - | 4.0 p.m. |
| Methodist Church School Room, 1st Friday Lansdowne Crescent | | 2.0 | - | 4.0 p.m. |
| Wyche Institute, Lower Wyche | 1st Tuesday | 2.0 | - | 4.0 p.m. |
| St. Mary's Church Hall, Sherrards Green | Fridays | 2.0 | - | 4.0 p.m. |
| Parish Hall, West Malvern | 1st Monday | 2.0 | - | 4.0 p.m. |
| Wood Farm Camp, Malvern Wells | 4th Monday | 2.0 | - | 4.0 p.m. |

School Clinic

| | | | | |
|-----------------------------------|-----------------------|------|---|-----------|
| The Clinic, Victoria Park Road | Fridays | 9.30 | - | 12.0 p.m. |
| | (by appointment only) | | | |

Chiropody

| | | | | |
|-----------------------------------|------------|-----|---|------------|
| The Clinic, Victoria Park Road | Mondays | 9.0 | - | 1.0 p.m. |
| | Tuesdays | 2.0 | - | 5.0 p.m. |
| | Wednesdays | 9.0 | - | 12.30 p.m. |
| | Fridays | 2.0 | - | 5.0 p.m. |

Applications from Old Age Pensioners, Expectant Mothers and Handicapped People should be made to the County Medical Officer, Worcester.

Dental

Eye

The Clinic,
Victoria Park Road as required
 (by appointment only) Applications made
 to County Medical

Hearing

Relaxation

The Clinic,
Victoria Park Road 1st, 3rd and
 5th Thursdays 2.0 - 4.0 p.m.

Speech Therapy

PREVALENCE AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES

The following table shows the number of infectious diseases notified during 1966.

| <u>Disease</u> | <u>All Ages</u> | 0- | 1- | 2- | 3- | 4- | 5-9 | 10-14 | 15-24 | 25+ | N.K. |
|------------------------------|-----------------|----|----|----|----|----|-----|-------|-------|-----|------|
| Scarlet Fever | 9 | - | - | 1 | 1 | 1 | 4 | 2 | - | - | - |
| Whooping Cough | 19 | 5 | - | 3 | 4 | 1 | 4 | - | - | 1 | 1 |
| Measles | 442 | 21 | 30 | 57 | 49 | 57 | 210 | 12 | - | 1 | 5 |
| Tuberculosis: respiratory | 2 | - | - | - | 1 | - | - | - | - | 1 | - |
| Pneumonia | 1 | - | 1 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Acute Pneumonia (primary) | 1 | - | - | - | - | 1 | - | - | - | - | - |
| Dysentery | 1 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 1 | - | - |

PROPHYLAXIS

Diphtheria Immunisation

| | <u>Ages 0 - 4 years</u> | <u>Ages 5 - 16 years</u> | <u>Total</u> |
|---|-------------------------|--------------------------|--------------|
| Children who received a full course of primary immunisation | 457 | 16 | 473 |
| Children who received a re-inforcing injection | 182 | 504 | 686 |

Whooping Cough Immunisation

| | | | |
|---|-----|----|-----|
| Children who completed a primary course of immunisation | 436 | 12 | 448 |
| Children who received a re-inforcing injection | 133 | 37 | 170 |

Tetanus Immunisation

| | | | |
|---|-----|-----|-----|
| Children who completed a primary course of immunisation | 457 | 17 | 474 |
| Children who received a re-inforcing injection | 180 | 455 | 635 |

Smallpox Vaccination

| <u>Under 1 year of age</u> | <u>Ages 1 - 2 years</u> | <u>Ages 2 - 4 years</u> | <u>Total</u> |
|----------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|--------------|
| 68 | 184 | 29 | 281 |

The Ministry of Health recommends that routine primary vaccination is not advisable during the first few weeks of life. It should be carried out at some time before the age of two years, preferably during the second year.

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT, 1948 section 47

Two persons were removed to hospital under the 1951 amending Act of the National Assistance Act.

The Council House,

Malvern.

November, 1967.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

In preparing the following report for the year 1966, it appears to be imperative, that I should mention the overwhelming and perhaps unprecedented number of enquiries dealt with by the clerical staff. The number of vaccination certificates authenticated, alone totalled one thousand, six hundred and seventy-seven.

Day-to-day enquiries and complaints made by members of the public cover an expanding range of subjects as the years go by, resulting from increasing legislation. A cross section can relate to the following matters:- Improvement Grants, Offices and Shops Act, Nuisances - smoke - noise - refuse - drainage. Property defects, Overcrowding in dwellings, Rodents and other vermin, Insect pests, Disinfection, Welfare of aged persons, Foreign travel, Food and drink.

The clerical staff, of necessity, are required to cope with as much of this work as possible. They, as well as your Inspectors, must keep abreast of the widening frontiers in the field of environmental health, otherwise the Department would be unable to function properly.

The variety of enquiries made either over the telephone, or by interview at the office counter, is almost legion. I propose to elaborate on one of these subjects namely; complaints concerning food. It has become very noticeable, looking back through our Register, that complaints relating to various commodities of food purchased in shops, or delivered to the customer by a roundsman, have risen sharply. They range through a variety of foodstuffs e.g.: - milk, eggs, bread, cakes, sausages, ham, bacon, meat pies, cheese, jam, chicken, cereals et cetera.

The majority of these complaints are concerned with pre-packed food, which in some cases, has by reason of negligence, deteriorated in the shop, having overstayed its welcome on the shelf, or in the refrigerated cabinet, or through some fault in the long line of manufacture, processing and packing, which has caused the food to become unfit for consumption. Invariably, the human element is involved, beyond the question of doubt. Your Inspectors take an intelligent interest in seeking the reasons for the increased number of complaints. In the case of milk, the bottles had not been effectually cleansed, or the contents were contaminated with foreign matter. Personnel at the dairy premises, cannot escape their failings and the managements are held responsible. Conversely, one also has in mind the gross misuse, to which the milk bottles are often subjected by members of the public; examples are too numerous to mention. With these factors in mind, one hopes that the glass milk bottle will eventually disappear from use, to be superseded with a non-returnable receptacle.

Referring to the shops and stores, it is considered fair comment, that not all managements of retail food shops pay proper attention, to maintain strict supervision of the limited "shelf life" of perishable foods, or due regard to detail, in the stocking of the refrigerated food. It is only proper to state that manufacturers of processed food, supply in careful detail, all the technical information resulting from research, to ensure that shopkeepers and their staffs may have the "know-how" to keep their stocks in perfect condition and thereby give satisfaction to the consumer. When these instructions are over-looked or disregarded, complaints are bound to arise, and the persons engaged in food businesses are by no means blameless, despite the excuses which are often made for "mistakes" when complaints are investigated.

A further interesting observation concerning the increase in the number of complaints made to this Department, may possibly be related to the change in recent years in the mode of shopping. I allude to the "self-service store" or "supermarket". Customers may shop at one of these stores for a long time without being known in person either by the manager or his assistants. The "old-fashioned" family grocer, now almost extinct, knew his customers and their families by Christian name terms. It is probable that he also made mistakes (some may say a lot more) though he did not retail the wide variety of the more sophisticated prepared food sold today. When a customer felt there was cause for complaint, "back to the shop" was the appropriate action, and with personal tact and apology on the part of the shopkeeper, the customer would return home with a contented mind that matters had been set aright. In the present day and age, the dissatisfied customer, makes full use of the Health Department of the Local Council to air a grievance. This is not altogether a bad thing, taking all matters into consideration.

Personal relationship between shopkeeper and customer may not have the importance it had a few decades ago, but it is acknowledged that modern shops are designed and equipped to maintain a higher standard of hygiene in the protection of food from contamination or spoilage. This calls for a greater responsibility; it is essential, therefore, that correct maintenance of stock rotation of perishable foods should receive careful supervision.

There are occasions, when the training and experience of the Health Inspectors are of paramount importance, since he must look more closely into the cause of the unfitness of the article of food giving rise for complaint; the cause may not be obvious. The faulty tinned meat may be considered unfit for consumption, but the cause of breakdown in the condition of the contents, obscure and unrelated to such matters as defective seams, poor tinning, or perforation by a nail or other outside agency. Unhygienic and imperfect processing may be responsible. It is always important to endeavour to find the faulty link, in the products of a food processing factory should the need arise, and we are fortunate in being able to consult the Director of the Public Health Laboratory Service in such cases.

Vigorous investigation behind the scenes must always be pursued to ascertain if possible the How and Why if we are able to justify our designation of Public Health Inspector. This work can be very time consuming, and may result in serious inroads being made into routine duties, we are required to perform.

Details relating to prosecutions for offences under the Food and Drugs Act appear under the appropriate heading of this report.

The display of posters at The Grange continues to attract the attention of persons using the entrance hall as a waiting room. Many have commented on the interesting variety of subjects covered and the importance of the message depicted. The posters relate to Public Health matters such as Hygiene in the Home and Food Shops, Avoidance of Accidents, Cancer, Diet, Improvement Grants, Safety in the Home, Infant Welfare et cetera.

I often wish it were possible to use a more prominent site for this display, to ensure that these posters may be brought to the notice of a wider section of the community, since they greatly assist in projecting knowledge and information, by way of a mental image; this is both practical and pleasant.

Satisfactory progress was made during the year under review in the clearance of dwellings subject to demolition orders. Our efforts to increase the number of houses improved, to the full standard, with grant assistance were not without success. Certain streets of the town have now been selected as being suitable as pilot schemes, should the Council decide to go ahead in implementing the provisions of the Housing Act, 1964 relating to improvement areas, to which I referred, in the report for the previous year.

SUMMARY OF VISITS AND INSPECTIONS

| | | | | | | | | | |
|--|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-------|
| Inspections of Movable Dwellings | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 7 |
| " " Shops | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 323 |
| " " Factories | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 246 |
| " " Office Shops and Railway Premises Act 1963 | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 255 |
| " " Bakehouses | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 37 |
| " " Restaurant Kitchens | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 63 |
| " " Outworkers Premises | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1 |
| " " Butchers Shops, P.H. Meat Regs. | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 264 |
| " " Stables and Piggeries | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 32 |
| " " Dairies | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 106 |
| " " Food Shops | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 476 |
| " " Fish Friers Premises | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 40 |
| " " Places of Public Entertainment | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 16 |
| " " Schools | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 43 |
| " " Licensed Premises | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 74 |
| " " Public Conveniences | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 144 |
| Special Visits, Advisory Interviews etc. | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 2,327 |
| Visits re:- Infectious Disease | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 51 |
| Rat Infestations | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 303 |
| Atmospheric Pollution | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 74 |
| Miscellaneous | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 610 |
| National Assistance Act | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 20 |
| Housing Including Inspections of Dwelling Houses | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1,561 |
| Petroleum Storage Installations | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 163 |
| | | | | | | | | | 7,236 |

COMPLAINTS

The Register shows that 488 complaints were received during the year under review, these having reference to the following matters:-

| | |
|---|----|
| Blocked and Defective Drainage | 32 |
| Defective Closet Accommodation | 4 |
| Defective Conditions in Dwelling Houses | 55 |
| Offensive Odours from Drains | 14 |
| Non-collection of House Refuse | 10 |

| | |
|-------------------------------|-----|
| Verminous Premises | 20 |
| Wasps Nest | 44 |
| Infestations of Rats and Mice | 228 |
| Miscellaneous | 81 |

RENT ACT, 1957

No action during 1966.

LAND CHARGES ACT, 1925

Requests for information concerning properties on which a Search for Local Land Charges is made to the Clerk of the Council are dealt with by this department where applicable; 483 enquiries were investigated during the year.

HOUSING (FINANCIAL PROVISIONS) ACT, 1958 as amended by HOUSE PURCHASE AND HOUSING ACT, 1959, HOUSING ACT, 1961 and HOUSING ACT, 1964

DISCRETIONARY IMPROVEMENT GRANTS

Eleven applications were received during the year 1966. Thirteen grants were approved in this period, nine of which related to the improvement of small dwellings, one the conversion of a large house into three self-contained flats, one the conversion of two sub-standard cottages into one dwelling, one the conversion of shop premises into a dwelling house, and one the conversion of shop store rooms et cetera into a self contained flat. Ten of these dwellings are owner-occupied.

STANDARD IMPROVEMENT GRANTS

Thirty applications were received during the year, all of which were investigated. Thirty applications were approved by the end of the year.

Twenty-three houses are owner-occupied and seven occupied by a tenant. The amenities to be provided were as follows:-

- 24 baths
- 25 wash-hand basins
- 27 domestic hot water supplies
- 27 water closets
- 21 ventilated food stores

When Standard Improvement Grants were introduced in 1959 it was anticipated there would be a speeding up in the progress rate of modernisation of dwellings. The following table shows comparative figures over the past eight years:-

| | 1959 | 1960 | 1961 | 1962 | 1963 | 1964 | 1965 | 1966 |
|-------------------------------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|
| Discretionary Grants approved | 21 | 22 | 20 | 11 | 20 | 15 | 12 | 13 |
| Standard Grants approved | 5 | 25 | 23 | 21 | 41 | 26 | 23 | 30 |
| | 26 | 47 | 43 | 32 | 61 | 41 | 35 | 43 |

HOUSING ACT, 1957.

Thirty-two dwelling houses were demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders. One of these, namely, No. 25, St. Ann's Road, was demolished by the Council in default of the owner.

114, 116 & 118, Longridge Road

74 & 76, Upper Howsell Road

Rapparee, Lower Howsell Road

104 & 106, Lower Howsell Road

28, North Malvern Road

5a, Hampden Road

25, St. Ann's Road

90, 92, 94 & 96, Newtown Road

61, 63, 65, 67 & 69, Newtown Road

36 & 38, Newtown Road

142, 144, 146 & 148, Newtown Road

2 & 4, Victoria Walk

18, 20 & 22, Lygon Bank

55, Cowlcigh Road

Demolition Orders were made in respect of the following properties:-

11, 12 & 13, Lamb Bank

25, Old Hollow Road

9 & 11, Yates Hay Road

86 & 88, Newtown Road

5a, Hampden Road

33 & 35, Victoria Walk

CLOSING ORDERS

A Closing Order was made in respect of No. 311, Worcester Road.

OVERCROWDING IN DWELLING HOUSES

Nineteen new cases of overcrowding were reported or discovered during 1966. This increased the number of cases on our records to twenty-seven.

The cases mainly refer to overcrowding of rooms normally used for sleeping purposes in excess of the statutory "Permitted" number.

During the year 17 cases were abated, thus, leaving 10 on record. Seventeen families were re-housed by the Council. The cases of over-crowding are placed in the following categories:-

- (a) Increase where one family are sole occupants 5 cases
- (b) Increase where family is in lodgings 4 cases
- (c) Married son or daughter making home with in-laws 8 cases

DRAINAGE AND SANITATION

It has been stated in previous years that the provision of main drainage and sewage disposal, to meet the needs of the outlying part of the town known as Interfields, was the most outstanding need under the heading of this paragraph.

The proposed joint scheme with Martley and Upton-upon-Severn Rural District Councils will solve the problem. However, delay in making a start seems inevitable.

INFECTIOUS DISEASE, DISINFECTION AND DISINFESTATION

In accordance with usual practice, and where necessary, investigations relating to infectious diseases are made, on notification to the Medical Officer of Health.

Three loads of bedding were destroyed and twenty-two rooms were fumigated. Infestations of cockroaches, fleas, silver fish, ants and flies were dealt with at various premises including dwelling houses, a school and restaurant kitchens.

ANIMAL BOARDING ESTABLISHMENTS ACT, 1963

Applications for renewal of licences in respect of three premises, already used in a small way for the boarding of cats and dogs were received during 1966.

Inspections were made and licences were subsequently issued.

PET ANIMALS ACT, 1951

One shop in Newtown Road was relicensed for 1966.

RIDING ESTABLISHMENTS ACT, 1964

This Act came into force on the 1st April, 1965, making it an offence to keep a riding establishment except, under the authority of a licence granted for that purpose.

The Avenue Riding School, Upper Chase Road, which was already an established business, was again licensed.

SCRAP METAL DEALERS ACT, 1964

This Act came into operation on the 1st July, 1965 and provides among other requirements that no person may carry on the business as a scrap metal dealer unless he is registered by the Council.

Nine persons were registered during 1965. No alterations or additions were recorded during 1966.

FACTORIES ACT, 1961

The provision of the Factories Act, 1961, which your Council has to administer, chiefly relate to the following matters:-

- (1) Factories where mechanical power is used.
 - (a) Provision and maintenance of sanitary conveniences for both sexes.
- (2) Factories where mechanical power is not used.
 - (a) Cleanliness
 - (b) Overcrowding
 - (c) Ventilation
 - (d) Drainage
 - (e) Provision and maintenance of sanitary conveniences for both sexes
 - (f) Temperature control
- (3) Sanitary Regulations for Bakehouses
- (4) Homework

The following table shows the list of factories on the Register.

| | |
|---|---|
| Agriculture Engineers | 2 |
| Automatic Packing and Weighing Machine Manufacturers | 1 |
| Bakehouses | 6 |
| Bread Slicing and Wrapping | 1 |
| Blacksmiths | 3 |
| Bicycle Repairs | 1 |
| Boot Repairing | 6 |
| Breeze Block Manufacturers | 1 |
| Builders | 3 |
| Clothing Manufacturers | 1 |
| Coal Gas | 1 |
| Concrete Slabs | 2 |
| Construction Engineers | 1 |
| Coppersmiths and Engineers | 1 |
| Dairies | 2 |
| Dairy Engineers | 1 |
| Dressmaking, Millinery etc. | 5 |

| | |
|---|----|
| Dry Cleaners | 1 |
| Electrical Instrument Manufacturers | 2 |
| Electrical Instrument Assembly | 1 |
| Fabricated Steel Products | 1 |
| Fireplace Manufacturers | 1 |
| Fruit Canners | 1 |
| General Engineering | 7 |
| Glass Syringes | 1 |
| Glove Making | 2 |
| Hemp Drying and Processing | 1 |
| Joinery | 20 |
| Laundry | 1 |
| Machinery Repairs | 1 |
| Machine Tool Manufacturers | 1 |
| Marine Dealer | 1 |
| Metal Polishing | 1 |
| Motor Cycle Repairs | 1 |
| Motor Cycle Cables | 1 |
| Metal Turning | 1 |
| Motor Manufacturers | 1 |
| Motor Vehicle Body Repairs and Spraying | 3 |
| Motor Repairs | 25 |
| Oat Rolling and Provender | 1 |
| Organ Building | 2 |
| Photographic | 2 |
| Piano Repairs | 1 |
| Plant Repairs | 1 |
| Plastic Mouldings etc. | 3 |
| Polishes and Dressings | 1 |
| Precision Engineers | 2 |
| Printers | 3 |
| Road Tanker Manufacturers | 1 |
| Roofing Contractors | 1 |
| Sausage Making | 10 |

| | |
|---------------------------------------|----|
| Saw Mills | 1 |
| Sheet Metal Work | 1 |
| Spectacle Manufacturers | 1 |
| Stocking Packing | 1 |
| Stone Crushing | 2 |
| Stonemasons | 2 |
| Tailoring | 2 |
| Transformers | 1 |
| Tinsmiths | 2 |
| Toy Distributors | 1 |
| Upholsterers | 8 |
| Water Works | 1 |
| Watch Repairs | 3 |
| Mineral Water Bottling | 1 |
| Wireless, T.V. and Electrical Repairs | 11 |

The number of inspections made of factories are as follows, the table being in accordance with the requirements of the Home Office:-

| Premises | Number on Register | Inspections | Number of Written Notices | Occupiers Prosecuted |
|--|--------------------------|-------------|---------------------------------|-------------------------|
| Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4, and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities | 45 | 107 | 6 | - |
| Factories not included above in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority | 127 | 139 | - | - |
| Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (Excluding out-workers' premises) | Nil | - | - | - |
| TOTAL | 172 | 246 | 6 | - |

Cases in which Defects were found:

| Particulars | Number of cases in which defects were found | | | | Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted | |
|---|--|----------|----------------------|----------------------|--|--|
| | Found | Remedied | Referred | | | |
| | | | To H.M. Inspector | By H.M. Inspector | | |
| Want of Cleanliness (S.1.) | 6 | 6 | - | - | - | |
| Overcrowding (S.2) | - | - | - | - | - | |
| Unreasonable temperature (S.3) | - | - | - | - | - | |
| Inadequate ventilation (S.4) | 6 | 4 | - | - | - | |
| Ineffective drain- age of floors (S.6) | - | - | - | - | - | |
| Sanitary Conveniences (S.7.) | - | - | - | - | - | |
| (a) Insufficient | - | - | - | - | - | |
| (b) Unsuitable or defective | 2 | 2 | - | - | - | |
| (c) Not separate for sexes | - | - | - | - | - | |
| Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork) | - | - | - | - | - | |
| TOTAL | 14 | 12 | - | - | - | |

OUTWORK - Part VIII of the Act (Sections 110 and 111)

| | Section 110 | | Section 111 | | | |
|----------------------------|---|--|--|--|-------------------|-------------------|
| | No. of out-workers in August list reqd. by Section 110 (1) (C) | No. of cases of default in sending lists to the Council | No. of prosecu- tions for failure to supply lists | No. of instances of work in unwholesome premises | Notices served | Prosecu- tions |
| Wearing apparel | 1 | - | - | - | - | - |
| Making etc. | | | | | | |
| Cleaning and Washing | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| TOTAL | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 |

OFFICES, SHOPS AND RAILWAY PREMISES ACT, 1963

At the 31st December, 1966, the number of registered premises was 255, as under:-

| | |
|--|-----|
| Offices | 63 |
| Retail Shops | 166 |
| Wholesale Shops, Warehouses | 8 |
| Catering establishments open to the Public, canteens | 15 |
| Fuel Storage Depots | 3 |

It would seem that many employers are failing to register their premises. Your Inspectors are doing all they can in bringing this matter to the notice of managements when routine visits are made, but this is by no means sufficient. One is given to understand this is a national problem, in which case, the Ministry of Labour will undoubtedly see fit to take further steps to ensure that all employers of labour comply with the requirement of registration.

Section 60, of this Act requires that annual reports are made to the Minister in a specified form. A statistical report on procedure during 1966, was duly sent to the appropriate Office early in the year.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

The following is a table of action taken with regard to the administration of:-

The Milk and Dairies (General) Regulations, 1959

The Milk (Special Designation) Regulations, 1963

The Milk (Special Designation) Regulations, 1963

Samples of raw milk are taken to the Public Health Laboratory, Worcester, for statutory, biological and bacteriological examination, details are given in the table following:-

| Class | Number of samples taken for examination | Number satisfactory | Number unsatisfactory |
|------------------------|---|---------------------|-----------------------|
| Designated "Untreated" | 54 | 53 | 1 |
| "Pasteurised" | 42 | 42 | Nil |

Biological Tests

Biological tests were made in respect of 6 samples referred to in this table in connection with evidence of infection by *M. tuberculosis* and *Brucella abortus*, with satisfactory results.

Statutory examinations were carried out on 48 samples of milk, and 47 samples conformed to the required standard.

The unsatisfactory report on this sample was forwarded to the area milk Officer.

Forty-two samples of pasteurised milk were subjected to the phosphatase test with satisfactory results.

The number of retail dairymen or milk purveyors is now 13. Distribution of milk is kept under observation. Vehicles used for this purpose are frequently inspected.

One hundred and six visits were made to dairy premises for the purpose of inspection or to collect samples of milk on arrival from the place of production.

ICE CREAM

Ninety-eight premises are now registered for the sale of ice-cream. Most of the ice-cream is sold pre-packed. Inspections are made as to the means of storage and the methods of dispensing this commodity.

FOOD HYGIENE

The following table, required by the Ministry of Health, sets out the various types of businesses embraced in the general term food premises, which call for supervision to maintain the standards required by the provisions of the Food Hygiene Regulations:

| List of Food Premises | No. | Compliance with Reg. 16 | Compliance with Reg. 19 |
|-----------------------------------|-----|-------------------------|-------------------------|
| Baker and Confectioners | 11 | 11 | 6 |
| Canteens | 12 | 12 | 12 |
| Dairies | 2 | 2 | 2 |
| General Stores | 19 | 19 | 4 |
| Grocers | 51 | 51 | 33 |
| Hotels (Licensed) | 10 | 10 | 10 |
| Licensed Premises | 60 | 60 | 49 |
| Butchers | 22 | 22 | 22 |
| Confectioners and Sweets | 20 | 20 | - |
| Fishmongers | 7 | 7 | 7 |
| Fish-Friers | 3 | 3 | 3 |
| Greengrocers | 14 | 14 | 9 |
| Hotel (Private) | 15 | 15 | 15 |
| Restaurants and Refreshment Rooms | 18 | 18 | 15 |
| TOTAL | 264 | 264 | 187 |

The number of premises which are required to comply with Regulation 19 is 199.

UNsound Food

The following is a list of unsound meat and other foods examined by your Inspectors at food premises and subsequently destroyed. Disposal of unsound food by incineration being no longer possible it has become necessary to bury all condemned foodstuffs. Every precaution is taken and the work is undertaken by our Disfection Operator.

Meat, Poultry, Fish and Miscellaneous Foods

| | | | |
|------------------|-------------------|---------------|------------|
| Shoulder of Lamb | 3 lbs. | Fish | 27 packets |
| Pig's Liver | 20 lbs. | Chickens | 2 |
| Chopped Pork | 1 lb. | Vegetables | 5 packets |
| Lamb's Liver | $\frac{3}{4}$ lb. | Miscellaneous | 3 packets |
| Braised Beef | 9 packets | | |

Tinned Meats

| | |
|------------------------|--------------|
| 14 Tins Ham | 118 lbs. |
| 1 Tin Pork Shoulder | 9 lb. 12 oz. |
| 2 Tins Chopped Pork | 8 lbs. |
| 19 Tins Corned Beef | 30 lbs. |
| 9 Tins Casserole Steak | 9 lbs. |
| 4 Tins Luncheon Meat | 16 lbs. |

Tinned Food other than Meat

| | |
|-------------------------------|---------------|
| 128 Tins Fruit | 194 lb. 8 oz. |
| 55 Tins Vegetables | 66 lb. 8 oz. |
| 16 Tins (Miscellaneous Foods) | 17 lb. 8 oz. |

RAG FLOCK AND OTHER FILLING MATERIALS ACT, 1951

This Act prescribed certain standards of cleanliness in the manufacturers use and storage of rag flock and other filling materials, and provides for the registration of upholsterers and certain other businesses, such as toy-makers and the licensing of manufacturers of rag flock et cetera.

Two premises are registered under the provisions of this Act.

PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT, 1949

The sewers throughout the town were subjected to a test treatment, followed up by a maintenance treatment. The results are recorded as required by the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food. These details were reported to your Committee.

The routine work of our operative engaged in rodent control has been fully explained in reports for previous years. Malvern being surrounded by rural and agriculture country, makes it essential that our operative should exercise his vigilance in making surveys and when found necessary, carrying out treatment, along the possible in-roads used by rodents on migration. It is the constant surveys, combined with effective treatments, which prevents minor infestations building-up into major ones and this work must be carried out with unremitting perseverance.

LEGAL PROCEEDINGS

Legal proceedings were taken under the provision of the Food and Drugs Act, 1955. The details are briefly stated as follows:-

Case No. 1 The owner of a mobile barbecue was prosecuted and pleaded guilty to having possession, for the purpose of sale, food intended for, but unfit for human consumption, namely 217 portions of chicken.

A fine of £50. 0. Od. was imposed.

Case No. 2 A multiple grocery Store was prosecuted and pleaded guilty to selling food not of the substance demanded, namely a mouldy fruit pie.

A fine of £25. 0. Od. was imposed and costs of £5. 5. Od.

Case No. 3 A Dairy Company was prosecuted and pleaded guilty to selling a bottle of milk containing foreign matter, namely twigs.

A fine of £10. 0. Od. was imposed and costs of £5. 5. Od.

CONCLUSION

It is my pleasure, once again, to express thanks to Dr. Green and the Clerk of the Council, for their constant and helpful spirit of co-operation in matters relating to our duties. Also to members of staff of the Clerk's, Treasurer's and Surveyor's departments who are always willing to liaison with work of this department when the need arises.

The staff of this department have, as always, shown their dependability and patience when progress is hindered, as the result of the multiplicity of our responsibilities. It is a pleasure to place on record my appreciation and thanks.

Thanks are also due to the Chairman and Members of the Highways and Health Committee and the Housing Committee for their support during the year 1966.

I am, Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

HUGH L. WHITWHAM.

